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VIOLA FLAVOVIRENS n. sp.

Mature plant 2–3 dm. high, subcaulescent, from a slender root-stock; leaves of a yellowish-green hue, long-petioled, oblanceolate or oblong, very obtuse at apex, tapering at base, and decurrent upon the petiole; margins ciliate, remotely and obscurely denticulate; both surfaces of the blade, particularly along the veins, clothed with fine white hirsute pubescence, which is also prominent on both petioles and peduncles; flowers borne well above the leaves (peduncles 1–3 dm. long), bright yellow, faintly veined with purple, the lateral petals slightly bearded; diameter of flower  $2\frac{1}{2}$  cm.; sepals narrowly linear, finely ciliate; capsule not observed.

Types collected by A. A. Heller, at Lake Waha, Nez Perces County, Idaho, June 3d and 4th, 1896 (no. 3106), also by Messrs. Sandberg, Heller and MacDougal, at the same locality May 22, 1892 (no. 222). In both cases distributed as *V. Nuttallii*, a diminutive species to which it is scarcely at all related. Specimens collected by L. F. Henderson, at Julietta, Idaho, and by Howell, at Hood River, Oregon, 1880, are evidently referable also to *V. flavovirens*.

### The Genus *Oxytria* of Rafinesque.

BY CHARLES LOUIS POLLARD.

There is a small genus of delicate Liliaceous plants in the South Atlantic and Gulf States, known in our manuals under the name of *Schoenolirion*, in which the synonymy is exceedingly confused, and the species have passed under a variety of generic appellations. Michaux established the name *Phalangium croccum*\* for a plant with "pyramidal raceme" and saffron yellow flowers, native of southern Georgia. As *Phalangium* Juss. is a synonym of *Anthericum* L., it was necessary to give the plant another generic appellation, and Elliott, having what he supposed to be Michaux's plant,† although the flowers were white, transferred the species to *Ornithogalum* with a question mark. (Bot. S. C. & Ga. 1: 397. 1821.) Rafinesque, in Fl. Tell. 2: 26, 1836, established two genera, *Oxytria* and *Amblostima*, basing the former on *Pha-*

\* Fl. Bor. Amer. 1: 196. 1803.

† Dr. Gray has already made this point clear. See Amer. Nat. 10: 427. 1876.

*langium croceum* Nutt., not Michx., and the latter on *P. croceum* Michx. and *Ornithogalum croceum* of Elliott which he renamed *Amblostima albiflora*. Nuttall calls attention to the incorrectness of the term "pyramidal" as applied to the inflorescence, but in other respects his plant is that of Michaux, as Dr. Gray has already testified. Rafinesque's species are thus seen to be congeneric, and *Oxytria*, by priority of place, should stand as the designation for the genus, which was first named *Schoenolirion* by Durand (Proc. Acad. Nat. Sci. Philad. new series 3: 103, 1855), who obtained it from Torrey's manuscript of the Wheeler report. Durand here also published as *Schoenolirion album* the Californian plant afterward distinguished by Watson as *Hastingsia alba*.

Revising the genus *Schoenolirion* for the American Naturalist in 1876 (1. c. p. 427), Dr. Gray disregarded Rafinesque's *Amblostima albiflora*, taking up Dr. Feay's manuscript name of *S. Elliottii* for the plant with white flowers. He recognized in addition three species, *S. croceum*, *S. album* and *S. Texanum*, the latter being *Ornithogalum Texanum* of Scheele. The same treatment is observed by Watson in his treatment of the Liliaceae three years later. The arrangement of species will then stand as follows, excluding the Californian plant, which seems to be best kept generically distinct:

OXYTRIA Raf. Fl. Tell. 2: 26. 1836.

[SCHOENOLIRION Durand, Proc. Acad. Nat. Sci. Philad. (III) 4: 103, 1855, in part] and all later authors. Characters of the genus as defined by Watson, Proc. Amer. Acad. 14: 216. 1879.

1. O. CROCEA (Michx.) Raf. l. c.

*Phalangium croceum* Michx. Fl. Bor. Amer. 1: 196. 1803.  
*Schoenolirion croceum* Gray, Amer. Nat. 10: 427. 1876.  
 Southern Georgia and Florida.

2. O. ALBIFLORA (Raf.)

*Amblostima albiflora* Raf. l. c.  
*Ornithogalum croceum* Ell. Bot. S. C. & Ga. 1: 397. 1821.  
*Schoenolirion croceum* Chapm. Fl. S. States, 483. 1863.  
*Schoenolirion Elliottii* Feay; Gray. l. c.  
 Southern Georgia and Florida, probably also in Alabama.

## 3. O. TEXANA (Scheele)

*Ornithogalum Texanum* Scheele, *Linnaea*, 23: 146.

*Schoenolirion Texanum* Gray, l. c.

Texas and Louisiana.

## Observations upon a Clearing in July.

BYRON D. HALSTED.

During the past winter a piece of woodland about four miles from New Brunswick, N. J., along the trolley line to South River has been chopped over, the wood removed and the brush left in large piles. No attempt has been made to clear the field of stumps or shrubs, and this piece offers a good opportunity for the study of the effect upon the smaller species of plants of the removal of the larger ones. The lot, of possibly five acres, somewhat irregular in outline, is quite uneven, and being in some parts high and in others low, with a small stream running through it, a large variety of conditions obtain and a rich flora results.

In general, it was an ordinary mid-Jersey forest of possibly the third cutting. Among the trees are oaks, chesnuts, and some pines in the higher ground, while near the bog, magnolias are present and birches and alders. In the lower part the *Rhus Vernix* and a tangle of *Smilax rotundifolia* line the wet portion where *Habenaria lacera* and *Osmunda cinnamomea* give place to the skunk cabbage.

The clearing was first visited in May with a class of a dozen students in quest of specimens for their plant collections. Upon this trip nothing unusual was noted, only the flowering herbs engaged the attention, and these were found upon the cleared lot, although in less abundance than in the woods, presumably only because the felling of the trees, and other tramping incident to the removal of the wood, had destroyed many of these tender humble plants.

A second visit was made upon July 5th, at the time when in the low ground an occasional *Azalea viscosa* was white with its highly fragrant blooms.

In the wooded portion the huckleberries of at least three species and the squaw berry, *Vaccinium stamineum*, abounded,